

History in the Making

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Introduction and Acknowledgements

Editors of History in the Making

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Introduction

The History Department of California State University, San Bernardino welcomes you to the fourth installment of its annual journal, *History in the Making*. The journal is proudly managed, edited, and written exclusively by California State University, San Bernardino students. Together, we strive to bring you a journal full of interesting and informative articles that will keep you thinking long after you have turned its pages. This year's offering spotlights several past and present issues of human rights around the world, and includes four full-length articles, analytic notes on a pair of archived letters, and a review of an historic site.

In our first article, "Rape Regiment: Sexual Violence against Women during War," Andrea Roskam brings to light a wartime atrocity that has received relatively little scholarly attention. The article focuses on the forced sexual slavery of Asian women by the Imperial Japanese government of the Second World War. Andrea mixes powerful images with vivid detail of brutality and sorrow in an article we hope will encourage further research on this important topic.

Our second article shifts attention from wartime sex slaves in Asia to religious sex slaves in Africa. In "The Trokosi Tradition in Ghana: The Silencing of a Religion," Rhonda Martinez looks at the practices of a little-known African faith. The article focuses on the forced sexual slavery of young women by their own families in order to redeem past discrepancies and ward off future misfortunes. Rhonda uses rich detail in an article that will tear at your heart-strings and bring a voice to Ghana's trokosi victims.

Our third article moves from the modern enslavement of Africans in Africa to the past segregation of African-Americans in the United States. In "Whatever Means Necessary: Uncovering the Case of *Sweatt v Painter* and Its Legal

History in the Making

Importance,” Adam Scott Miller spotlights a little-known 1950s court case. The article focuses on the lawsuit *Sweatt v Painter* and how it paved the way for future civil rights legislation. Adam employs thorough and in-depth research in an article that artfully displays the case’s place in American history.

In our final full-length article, “Memorializing Conflict and Controversy: A Look Into the Kent State Memorials,” Heather Johnson reminds us of one of the most tragic events in America’s history, and the ways it has been memorialized over time. The article focuses on the 1970 shootings at Kent State University and the sometimes-controversial memorials that have been erected to remember the event. Heather melds photographs with oral histories in an article that reminds us of one of America’s darkest days.

In addition to our four full-length articles, the journal also debuts a special section entitled Notes from the Archives. This year’s notes come from Erica Maien Ward in her analysis of two turn-of-the-twentieth-century letters from the Perris Indian School. With “Indian Boarding School History: An analysis of two letters from the Perris Indian School,” Erica exposes the forced assimilation of Native American children in an article we hope will encourage a greater interest in the relationship between United States and Native American histories.

Rounding out this year’s journal is Renee Barrera’s review of the Manzanar National Historic Site. Renee offers rich photographs in her detailed review of the Central California site where more than 11,000 Japanese and Japanese-Americans were detained by the American government during World War II.

We hope you find these articles as interesting and informative as we do, and thank you for reading the 2011 edition of *History in the Making*.

Thomas Hagen,
Chief Editor

Acknowledgements

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Thank you all.

History in the Making

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